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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2007

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae>

THIEF PLEADS GUILTY TO STEALING GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

SACRAMENTO --United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that JUAN TEJEDA, of Sacramento, pleaded guilty today before United States District Judge William B. Shubb to receipt and conversion of stolen government property.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the Federal Protective Service, a unit of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kyle Reardon, who prosecuted the case, on May 20, 2007, a 2003 Dodge Ram, four-door extended cab truck owned by the General Services Administration and used by the United States Geologic Survey was stolen while the truck was being used to perform survey and monitoring work along the American River levee system. In the back of the truck at the time it was stolen was over \$100,000 in electronic survey and other equipment. On May 25, 2007, the truck was found in an apartment complex parking lot in Sacramento, California. Most of the survey equipment, as well as a winch that was attached to the front of the truck were missing. During his guilty plea, the defendant admitted being in the truck with a female driver after it was stolen, knowing that the truck and the equipment in it were United States government property. TEJEDA also admitted to assisting the female in the sale of some of the equipment that was in the truck. In total, the defendant admitted that he and the female received \$130 for the equipment that they were able to sell. The defendant admitted to

dumping the equipment that he could not sell near a dumpster at an apartment complex in Sacramento, California.

The defendant is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Shubb on January 14, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641 is ten years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, or both, and a three-year term of supervised release. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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